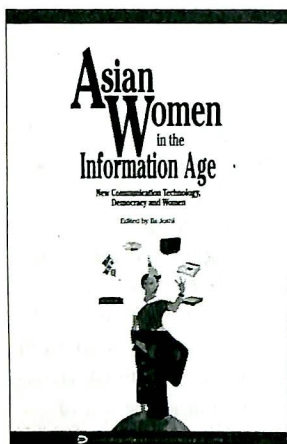


We feature resources in this section that are available at the Isis Resource Centre. If you are interested in buying copies, please contact the publisher directly. For more information about how to contact the publisher, e-mail us at <library@isiswomen.org>.

BOOKS



Asian Women in the Information Age: New Communication Technology, Democracy and Women
Edited by Ila Joshi

Each successive wave of New Communication Technologies (NCTs) claims to herald a new democratic age, promising greater awareness and political participation for all elements of society. However, where gender equality is concerned, the influence of NCTs has often been less than neutral. The book examines the implications of NCTs on democracy for women in Asia. It tackles the extent to which women are utilising NCTs, and highlights the cultural, social and political barriers they face as they incorporate these NCTs into their lives. The book also addresses some of the nega-

tive aspects of these technologies, such as the stereotypical portrayal of women by the mass media, and prejudices regarding women's facility in technology.

The countries of Asia differ markedly, in both technological development and social norms. *Asian Women in the Information Age* is the product of a research conducted in China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore, and includes articles on six other countries such as Bangladesh, Japan, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand. The study features the variety of cultural realities in the region and offers several perspectives on the effects of NCTs.

Published by the Asian Media Information and Communication Centre (AMIC), School of Communication Studies Building Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. Undated. 203 pp. ISBN 99710905-72-3

Communication Rights: Fourth Generation of Human Rights? Human Rights in the Information Society
By Saeid N. Neshat

The book consists of two papers: "Communication Rights: Human Rights

in the Information Society: From Exclusion to Inclusion," and "Access to Information in Human Rights: A Forgotten Concept."

The first paper, *Communication Rights: Human Rights in the Information Society*, analyses communication rights in the context of "three generations of human rights." The first generation of human rights refers to civil and political rights that are anchored on the main principle of liberty and protects human beings against any political or civil abuse or misuse of power. The second generation is composed of social, cultural and economic rights based on the principle of social equality. The third refers to solidarity rights and includes the notion of communication rights.

The second paper, "Access to Information in Human Rights: A Forgotten Concept," discusses the important role of civil society organisations in drafting the important documents on communication rights. These include the "Declaration of Principles concerning the Contribution to the Mass Media to Strengthening Peace and International Understanding, to the Promotion

of Human Rights and to Countering Racialism, Apartheid and Incitement to War," the "Johannesburg Principles on National Security, Freedom of Expression and Access to Information," the "People's Communication Charter and the Statement on Human Rights, Human Dignity and the Information Society."

The texts of these documents are also included in the book.

Published by Olive Leaf Publishing, P.O. Box 15785-6619, Tehran, Iran, 2003, 96 pp., Pbk. ISBN: 964-5681-70-7

Communication Works
By Teri Kwal Gamble and Michael Gamble

Communication is not just words, paint on canvas, math symbols or the equations and models of scientists; it is the interrelation of human beings trying to escape loneliness, trying to share experience, trying to implant ideas. *Communication Works* helps the readers understand these essentials of communication.

The book seeks to help readers explore how to:

- Enhance communication skills;

- Assess the extent of one's preparedness to meet the challenges posed by an increasingly socially diverse society;
- Make ethical decisions regarding communicative behaviours;
- Identify how media and technology are changing the nature of the readers' communication environment; and
- Think more critically about communication.

The appendix on mass communication and media literacy describes how the traditional media environment has changed, the functions performed by the media, and other media-related issues such as violence, privacy, media-induced passivity or anxiety, and the advertising of unhealthy products.

On its seventh edition, the authors hope to help foster an appreciation of the kinds of skills and understanding of communication issues needed to become competent communicators in the 21st century. It brings different backgrounds and experiences to the exploration of communication, and identifies how media and technology are changing the nature of the communication environment as a whole.

Published by The McGraw-Hill, 1221 Avenue of the Americas, New York, USA, 2002, 597 pp. Pbk. ISBN: 0-07-240077-3

Facing the Challenges of Corporate Globalization: Role of Media and Information, Communication Technology

By Ahmed Swapan Mahmud

The book underscores how ICTs are certainly an important tool in development (education, culture, health, gender equality, etc.), and how these should benefit people in developing countries like Bangladesh. The author notes that despite the contributions of international funding agencies toward this effort, the better beneficiary of development communication funds are the ordinary people, not business companies whose idea of "development" is propelled by corporate motives of profit and expansion. The current situation creates, rather than reduces, further "divides" (and consequently, poverty and discrimination): between the information poor and the information rich, between genders, between urban and rural people, between the rich and poor, and between the educated and illiterate.

Development must "reach most of the people, especially the disadvantaged, otherwise, development is false, a paradox between theory and practice," says the author. He calls for policy formulation and implementation on the best uses of ICT at all levels. In other chapters, he highlights how community me-

dia helps promote people's agenda and further participation in governance, and how it works as a tool in confronting globalisation.

This brief campaign material discusses globalisation, and media and ICT in both global and Bangladeshi contexts.

Published by Voices for Interactive Choice and Empowerment (VOICE), House #13/8/1 (3/F), Road #2, Shyamoli Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh. 2003, 24 pp.

Four Arguments for the Elimination of Television

By Jerry Mander

Imagining a world free of television. Author Jerry Mander envisions only beneficial effects: Whatever is lost because we can no longer see fuzzy and reduced versions of drama, the actual experience of life and environment directly lived, and the resurgence of the human feeling that accompanies this will compensate for. Chances are excellent that human beings, once outside the cloud of television images, will be happier than they have been of late, once again living in a reality less artificial, less imposed, and more responsive to personal action.

The arguments include that:

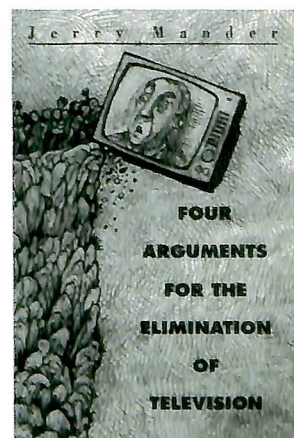
- Television inhibits cognitive processes;
- It is a form of sense deprivation, causing disorientation and confusion;

- It suppresses and replaces creative human energy; and
- It is inherently anti-democratic.

A total departure from previous writing about television, this book is the first ever to submit that the medium is not reformable. Its problems are inherent in the technology itself and are so dangerous—to personal health and sanity, to the environment, and to democratic processes—that TV ought to be eliminated forever.

Weaving personal experiences with meticulous research, the author scans rarely examined aspects of television never before joined, allowing an entirely new, frightening image to emerge.

What makes *Four Arguments* unique is that its author refuses to fall for the proposal that television—the TV set—is neutral technology that can be used either for good or for bad. Mander concludes that the



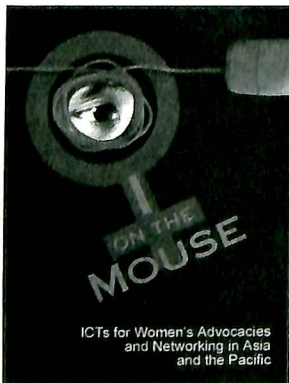
true danger TV poses comes not so much from the content of the programmes broadcast, but from our relationship with the TV set as it sits in our living rooms.

Published by Other India Press, Mapusa 403 507 Goa, India. 1998, 317 pp. Pbk. ISBN: 81-85569-38-X

I On the Mouse: ICTs for Women's Advocacies and Networking in Asia and the Pacific

By Asian Women's Resource Exchange

The Internet, and electronic and computer technologies have not only expanded advocacy activities, research, information sharing and campaigns; they have also speeded up feedback to and from network partners, target audience and the general public, and enhanced communication within and between many organisations. Stories have been told and heard about how these communication tools are being used effectively to strengthen the women's movement at large.



The Asian Women's Resource Exchange (AWORC) conducted a study to look into the working environment of the women's organisations in the region that seek to improve its electronic networking outreach more effective. The study delved into the purposes, methods and scope of these organisations' use of ICTs. It also examined the appropriateness and relevance of the types of technologies used within the context of the debate around the issues of digital divide, exclusion and participation. More important, the study identified the specific training and networking needs of these organisations.

The research covered eight countries in the Caucasus and central Asia (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan); to the Pacific Island countries (Federated States of Micronesia, New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu, Fiji); and seven countries in Asia (India, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mongolia, Nepal, Philippines).

Published by Asian Women's Resource Exchange Network (AWORC), 2001, 275 pp.

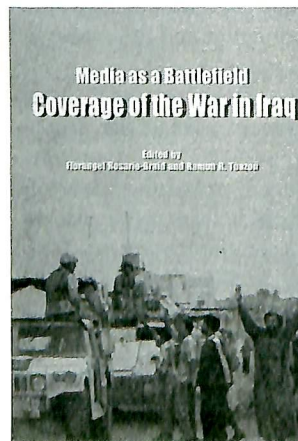
Limited copies available from Isis International-Manila P.O. Box 1837, Quezon City Main, Quezon City 1100, Philippines.

Media as a Battlefield: Coverage of the War in Iraq

Edited by Florangel Rosario-Braid and Ramon R. Tuazon

The war in Iraq will be remembered for "embedded journalists," real-time 24-hour media coverage, introduction of two Middle East media networks Al Jazeera and Abu Dhabi TV to a worldwide audience, and showcase of information technology, to name a few. The Internet provides options and diverse viewpoints with hundreds of websites dedicated to the war.

This book examines lessons on the media coverage of the war in Iraq from the perspective of Filipino journalists, journalism professors, social scientists, public relations practitioners and other communication professionals. It has three chapters: (1) "Media as a Battlefield," (2) "Coverage of the War in Iraq: Benchmark in Conflict Reporting?" and (3) "Psychol-



ogy of the War: Winning Hearts and Minds."

The recurring themes are balance and options: balancing coverage of military actions and the effects of war on civilians; press freedom and social responsibility; unilateralism vs. multilateralism; war journalism and peace journalism. The other relevant issues are safety and protection of journalists, impact of new information and communication technology on news coverage, competition among media networks, the use of psychological operations (psy-ops), news management, and "spin doctors."

The book consists of the papers and proceedings of the forum "Into the New Battlefield: Media Coverage of the War in Iraq" convened a month after the war. Papers on the issue, whether published in national dailies or read out in forums were also included.

The book is intended for media managers, journalists and students of communication interested in enhancing skills in news gathering and writing, analysing and processing information, utilising new information technology, coping with dangers and threats, and resolving ethical and moral issues. The publisher hopes the book will serve as a reminder of the importance of basic tenets of good journalism and the implications of news management

practices, censorship and the use of propaganda.

Published by Philippine Communication Centrum Foundation, c/o Asian Institute of Journalism and Communication, Units 801 & 902, Annapolis Wilshire Plaza, 11 Annapolis Street, Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila, Philippines. 2003, 172 pp. ISBN 971-8502-12-2

The Right to Know: Access to Information in Southeast Asia
Edited with an introduction by Sheila S. Coronel

The *Right to Know* documents the state of access to information in eight countries in Southeast Asia such as Burma, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. It examines the laws that guarantee or restrict access to information, and describes the media and the political and social environments in which information is given out or withheld. The essays in the volume pay particular attention to the state of the media as the major channel of information in these countries. It also looks at the experience of ordinary citizens in demanding information from the State.

What emerges from the study is that Southeast Asia defies easy generalisations. The region is home to over 530 million people from a wide range of ethnic, linguistic, religious and political groups. While



most Southeast Asians now live in democracies, about a third of them do not enjoy free press or firm guarantees of their civil and political rights. The blessings of democracy and prosperity, both within and among countries, are unevenly distributed.

This book surveys this uneven landscape. The Philippines and Thailand rank as the most transparent countries. Cambodia is third, although citizens rarely attempt to obtain information from the government, which they think is authoritarian and inaccessible.

For the longest time, the rulers of Southeast Asia maintained political control through information control. Since the late 1980s, however, such strangleholds have been challenged by democracy movements, technological advances and the increasing integration of regional economies into global trade and finance. The Southeast Asian experience shows that the struggle for freedom of information cannot be taken

separately from the struggle for democracy. The most significant openings in information access have come about as part of a package of democratic reforms. These reforms, in turn, were the product of citizens' involvement in pro-democracy movements; they would not have been possible if left to the initiative of leaders or legislatures.

Published by the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism, Quezon City, Philippines, 2001, 270 pp. Pbk. ISBN: 971-8686-34-7.

Voices from Africa: Information and Communication Technologies, Issue No. 9

Compiled by United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Services (NGLS)

Since the end of the 1980s, a new era of possibilities concerning information and communication technologies has begun in Africa. Satellite technology, which permits instantaneous transmission of images, has brought the continent onto international circuits. The popularity of other information and communication technologies, such as the Internet in the 1990s, came with other monumental trends such as globalisation, economic crisis and democratic change.

However, the dependence that is shaping Africa's insertion into world communication networks goes hand in hand with the

outright failure of African nations to develop and carry out proactive policies in the field of new information technologies. Obviously, the introduction of the Internet does not suffice to bring about an information revolution in Africa, promote development and democracy, or give birth to a "new society." Technology and information are only tools; what matters is who has access and for what objectives.

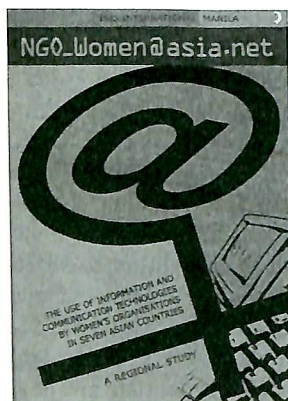
Voices from Africa 9: Information and Communication Technologies aims to identify the advantages and disadvantages of these new technologies, their use in Africa, and the challenges of making these more accessible.

Published by the United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Services, Palais des Nations, CH1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland, 2000, 115 p., Pbk. UNCTAD/NGLS/164

NGO_Women@asia.net: The Use of Information and Communication Technologies

By Women's Organisations in Seven Asian Countries: A Regional Study

This Asia research report is part of a wider regional study initiated by the Asian Women's Resource Exchange network. Isis International-Manila co-ordinated the Asia region study; UNESCAP (United Nations Economic and Social Commission for



Asia Pacific), the Central Asia study; and the Association for Progressive Communication Women's Networking Support Programme (APCWNSP), the Pacific Island study. The research, carried out from September 2000 to January 2001, meant to: (1) to generate a set of baseline data in order to contextualise the environment surrounding women's access and utilisation of information and communication technologies (ICTs) in their countries, and (2) collect data from a sample survey of women's organisations on their use of ICTs in office settings.

The research findings were intended to facilitate the identification of women's ICT training and networking needs in the region.

Published by Isis International-Manila, 3 Marunong Street, Barangay Central, Quezon City 1100 Philippines. 2002, 85 pp. ISBN 971-8829-10-5

WEB RESOURCES

ASMITA

ASMITA Women's Publishing House, Media and Resource Organization is a Nepal-based NGO that seeks to fill the gap in participation, representation and access to media of women. ASMITA, which means "identity" and "dignity," is a feminist alternative media organisation in the country; it also functions as a pressure group for the advancement of women through media activism. It is committed to gender equality, and women's empowerment and human rights publishing, information and documentation, research, training, media analysis, networking and consultancy services.

ASMITA produces various publications on women including the feminist magazine *Asmita Monthly*, *Sahachar*, a magazine for neo-literate women, posters, literacy support materials and other multimedia materials. The ASMITA website features resources about Nepalese women's concerns, activity announcements, updates on the group's media activism efforts, a brief profile of Nepal, and a directory with contact information of various Nepali organisations.

Website: <<http://www.asmita.org.np>>

Language: English, with some sections in Nepalese

Office address: 3/F, Tulasi Plaza, Tripureshwor, Kathmandu, Nepal

Mailing address: P.O. Box 4795, Kathmandu, Nepal

Tel: (977-1) 252 445

Fax: (977-1) 267 929

E-mail: <asmita@healthnet.org.np>

The Communications Initiative

The Communications Initiative is a partnership among development organisations established to support advances in the use of communications for international development. Its 6,000 page-website has extensive resources, including updated communication and development news and summaries of international development trend data. It also has extensive listing of publications and reports, programmes and organisations, discussion forums and electronic magazine in the communication and development sectors. The information is thematically organised along topics/issues, such as radio, South Asia, children, environment and health.

Also available are interactive surveys, ongoing polls, announcements of job postings and training opportunities, and online subscription to its electronic magazine "The Drum Beat." A special supplement of the magazine, published in May 2002, focuses on recently produced materials related to strategic communications for development.

Website: <<http://www.comminit.com>>

Language: English and Spanish

Address: 5148 Polson Terrace, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada V8Y 2C4

Tel: (1-250) 658 6372

Fax: (1-250) 658 1728

E-mail: <wfeek@comminit.com>

Community Radio Manual

Envisioned as a resource for community radio stations in South Africa, this manual was developed by the Community Radio Support Programme of the Open Society Foundation of South Africa (OSF-SA), a group committed to promoting the values, institutions and practices of an open, civil and democratic society where minorities and divergent opinions are respected.

The website features a manual that establishes community radio in the context of South Africa's media history. This also includes:

- a detailed table of contents, brief chapter summary, lists of abbreviations, glossary, contact information and suggested further readings;
- practical guidelines in organising and operating a community radio production—developing the mission statement, structuring and managing the station, applying for a license, programming, equipment basics, conducting research, marketing, fundraising; and
- tips in actual production of news, commercial/non-commercial spots and drama.

It also provides relevant examples of community radio experiences from South America, Central America and the Caribbean, North America and other parts of Africa.

Website: <<http://www.oneworld.net/external/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.osf.org.za%2Fcrm%2520contents.html>>

Language: English

Address: OSF-SA Community Radio Support Programme (Publisher), Colinton House, Norwich Oval, 1 Oakdale Road, Newlands 7700, South Africa

Tel: (27-21) 683 3489

Fax: (27-21) 683 3550

E-mail: <admin@ct.osf.org.za>

Feminists Against Censorship

Formed in 1989, Feminists Against Censorship (FAC) was initially a group of long-time feminist academics and campaigners who wished to fight censorship from a feminist perspective. They were later joined by younger women, including those in other professions, such as computer programming, photography, secretarial work, law, and commercial sex work. FAC stands for free expression, both on the Net and off it, from bookstores to libraries, in Britain and America. FAC's demands include the creation of an accessible public forum for the discussion of vital issues such as sexism and racism in a fuller, more realistic context that acknowledges the alienating and divisive forces in society (i.e., belief that it's not me-

dia that create increased tensions between the races, the sexes, and classes). They also advocate for positive and accurate sex education for young people.

The FAC website presents the group's organisational mandate, updates on its monitoring and campaign activities, a mailing list subscription for censorship alerts, and links to other organisations involved in anti-censorship work.

Website: <<http://www.fiawol.demon.co.uk/FAC/>>

Language: English

Address: Feminists Against Censorship, BM FAC London WC1N 3XX, UK

Tel: (44-20) 8552 4405

Fax: (44-20) 8548 1591

E-mail: <avedon@cix.co.uk>

Communications Rights in the Information Society (CRIS)

The right to communicate is a universal human right and the emergence of the information society must see to it that this right redounds to the benefit of all. This is the crux of the CRIS campaign launched in November 2001—to ensure that communication rights are central to the information society. The campaign was also timed with the World Summit to the Information Society (WSIS), considered by many as an important forum for promoting such an objective.

CRIS' vision of an information society is grounded in the Right to Communicate as a means to enhance human rights and to improve the social, economic and cultural lives of people and communities. The campaign was initiated by the Platform for Communication Rights, an umbrella group of international NGOs active in media and communication. CRIS is organised around thematic working groups focusing on specific issues, and national and regional chapters supporting local activity. The multilingual website features briefing papers, events announcements and other information for lobbying and advocacy.

Website: <<http://www.crisinfo.org/live/index.php?section=1>>

Language: English, with some sections in Spanish, French, Portuguese, Russian and Italian

E-mail: <act@crisinfo.org>

ePoor

ePoor believes the crucial challenge facing Pakistan and other Southern countries is the inability to produce,

disseminate and transmit relevant knowledge that results in a critical inability to confront globalisation, particularly the question of its benefits to the majority. Thus, the organisation is concerned with building the capacity of Pakistani society through interventions that address the issues of globalisation, ICT, higher education reform and sustainable development.

ePoor builds networks of, and provides support to, individuals and civil society organisations involved in these areas of concern. It aims to produce a body of knowledge relevant to Pakistan's policy toward globalisation; develop policy briefings and papers and provide policy advice to relevant sectors; raise social awareness through a variety of techniques; and implement field-based projects such as the proposed Village Online Portal.

Website: <<http://www.epoor.org/home.htm>>

Language: English

Address: ePoor, 1/F, Waheed Plaza, 52 W Blue Area, Islamabad, Pakistan

Tel: (92-51) 220 1484, 220 1558, 220 1342

Fax: (92-51) 227 4039

E-mail: <mzaidi@epoor.org>

Fahamu

Fahamu, whose name comes from the Kiswahili word for "understanding," is committed to supporting progressive social change in the South, specifically Africa, through information and communication technologies (ICTs). The group specialises in making electronic information available to organisations and social movements by:

- Producing electronic newsletters, and disseminating news, information and debate about social justice in Africa;
- Producing distance learning materials for human rights and humanitarian organisations;
- Providing face-to-face training workshops;
- Managing the websites of partners;
- Making web-based resources available for offline use;
- Undertaking social policy research on Africa.

Fahamu comprises a small core of skilled and experienced staff in Oxford (UK), where the headquarters is based, and Durban (South Africa), as well as associates in the UK and other countries.

Website: <<http://www.fahamu.org.uk/>>

Language: English

Address: Unit 14, Standingford House, Cave Street, Ox-

ford OX4 1BA, UK

Tel: (44-1865) 791 777

Fax: (44-1865) 203 009

E-mail: <info@fahamu.org>

Foundation for Media Alternatives

FMA is a Philippine-based service institution committed to the democratisation of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) for the empowerment of Filipinos. It explores the strategic use of various communications media to address access to, and equity of, disadvantaged sectors in ICTs, and to facilitate better collaboration and exchange of ideas and resources among the country's civil society organisations. FMA is involved in education, training, consultancy, research and public information.

In the development stages is FMA's Women and Gender programme, which seeks to support gender-based ICT programmes and projects, especially women's networking and capacity building. The programme also aims to formulate and mainstream appropriate gender-based audits of all civil society-based information and communication projects. Currently, FMA supports the strategic information networking efforts of Salidumay, a network of 15 women's networks, organisations, federations, advocacy groups and other social development institutions.

Website: <<http://www.fma.ph>>

Language: English

Address: 68-B E. Abada Street, Loyola Heights, 1108 Quezon City, Philippines

Telefax: (63-2) 635 6684

E-mail: <fmalt@fma.ph>

Fundación ChasquiNet

ChasquiNet is a private non-profit organisation in Ecuador dedicated to empowering grassroots organisations, campesinos, minority groups and other impoverished sectors through the promotion and use of the Internet. It views the Internet as a tool that can be used to enable poor communities to improve their living standards, help them articulate their opinions and demands, and influence the crafting of social and economic policies that affect them. The projects of ChasquiNet include:

- Telelac 2 - Regional Network of Telecentres (www.telecentros.org),
- Barrionet - Regional Network of Barrios that use ICTs for development (www.barrionet.org), and
- Barriocom - An e-trading platform for Barrios <<http://www.barriocom.net>>.

The group's Community Development Programme helps build a telecentre network in the region. A major goal of this programme is to develop a gender framework for evaluating telecentres and to collect stories that illustrate how women use the telecentres to influence policies and events that shape their lives.

Website: <<http://www.chasquinet.org>>

Language: Spanish

Address: Hernando Sarmiento N39-65 entre Portete y Hugo Moncayo, Ecuador

Tel: (593-22) 242 489

Fax: (593-22) 453 664

The Hoot

This website, created under the auspices of the Media Foundation, is an attempt to revive concern for media ethics, restore focus on development in the subcontinent, and preserve press freedom. It envisions to "hold a mirror" to the way the region's journalists practice their craft, and examine issues of accuracy, fairness, right to information, censorship, and the responsibility of the media. It is aimed at journalists, consumers of media including lay readers and viewers, and students and teachers of journalism and communications. Particularly for the last group, as well as for media professionals, it aims to bring together several relevant links and readings.

Website: <<http://www.thehoot.org>>

Language: English

E-mail: <editor@thehoot.org>

HURIDOCS

Established in 1982, the Human Rights Information and Documentation Systems, International (HURIDOCS) is a global network of organisations in search of effective ways of using information for the cause of human rights. A decentralised network, HURIDOCS helped in the formation of several regional and thematic networks established primarily for upgrading information-handling skills and the exchange of human rights information within their respective areas.

A rich trove, especially for those in information and documentation work, the website provides basic tools for monitoring, information-handling and document control; publications, mailing lists, audio-visual materials and other tools that could assist in the development of standards in information handling; and updates on information systems, software and technological developments.

Website: <<http://www.huridocs.org/>>

Language: English, with some materials in French and Spanish

Address: 48, chemin du Grand-Montfleury CH-1290 Versoix, Switzerland

Tel: (41-22) 755 5252

Fax: (41-22) 755 5260

Email: <info@huridocs.org>

Media Awareness Network

Formed in 1996, this Canada-based non-profit organisation serves as a media literacy clearinghouse and aims to promote critical thinking in young people about media by offering media and information literacy resources for teachers and parents.

MNet's award-winning website hosts a wide variety of resources including more than 300 lesson plans for educators to use in classrooms; professional development resources for librarians and teachers; tips, information and practical tools for parents; and an ever-expanding database of articles, research reports and other reference materials on current and emerging media issues.

Website: <<http://www.media-awareness.ca>>

Language: English and French

Address: 1500 Merivale Road, 3/F, Ottawa, ON K2E 6Z5

Tel: (1-613) 224 7721

Fax: (1-613) 224 1958

E-mail: <info@media-awareness.ca>

MediaRights.org

Launched in July 2000, the MediaRights.org website is designed to help users locate and use documentary and advocacy videos/films to encourage action and inspire dialogue on contemporary social issues. It was founded to promote innovative media about social issues, build new audiences for social issue documentaries, and encourage new partnerships and collaboration.

The site includes an extensive database that features abstracts and other information about film/video productions on social issues such as criminal justice, environment, gender/women, media and racial justice. It also features online workshops designed for producers, educators/librarians and youth media activists. MediaRights.org does not distribute the films, but it provides links to distributors whose films are listed in the database. Activists and filmmakers can be listed in the respective databases free of charge.

Website: <<http://www.mediarights.org/>>

Language: English

Address: 104 W. 14th Street, 4/F, New York City 10011, USA

Tel: (1-646) 230 6288

Fax: (1-646) 2306328

E-mail: <info@mediarights.org>

MITRA Technology Foundation

MITRA, a non-profit company, has three focus areas: applications, services (IT, trainings), and research and consultancy (ICTs, e-governance, virtual volunteering).

An example of applications developed is IndiaCalls, a platform that aims to foster volunteerism in India. It also brings together individuals, corporations and NGOs in volunteer centres located in Delhi, Mumbai, Pune and Chennai. The group's research and consultancy work includes the establishment of "rural cyber-kiosks" in Baramati and Pabal, remote areas of Pune, and the "India Country Gateway," a one-stop shop for development-related information across the world. MITRA also manages the content in the E-governance area of the India Country Gateway portal. For details, visit www.incg.org.in and <<http://www.countrygateway.org.in>> and <<http://www.countrygateway.org.in/partner.htm>>.

Website: <<http://www.mitra.org.in>>

Language: English

Address: F/48, (Ground Floor), Lajpat Nagar, Part 1, New Delhi-110024, India

Tel: (91-11) 2691 1720

Omar Dengo Foundation

The Omar Dengo Foundation is an NGO working to expand children's knowledge in the use of computers and teaching methods that reinforce children's creativity. The foundation's emphasis is on refresher courses for teachers and special programmes to help individuals, institutions and businesses gain access to new technologies and innovative teaching methods. The group also provides consultancy to other countries in the South American region that believe in technology as a tool for development.

Website: <<http://www.fod.ac.cr/>>

Language: English, Spanish

Address: Apartado 1032-2050 San José, Costa Rica

Tel: (506) 257 6263

Open Forum of Cambodia

Apart from publishing weekly overviews of the *The Mirror* in English and *Kanychok Sangkum* in Khmer, the Open Forum of Cambodia works in three interrelated fields:

(1) As a member of a national network of community information centres, it provided the know-how for the development of a Khmer-language HTML Web portal and currently collects and updates information received from NGOs, political parties and other news sources in all the community information centres.

(2) It has operated the first e-mail access to the Internet in Cambodia since 1994, despite the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications' restrictions on access to the Web. Aside from providing connectivity, the Open Forum hosts over thirty mailing lists, some in English and some in Khmer, as a means of promoting mutual and group discussions on social issues.

(3) It also provides opportunities to graduate students for limited internships in the Open Forum activities, as well as organises occasional youth meetings on social concerns.

Website: <<http://www.forum.org.kh/eng/>>

Language: English

Address: House 245, Street 51, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Tel: (855-23) 360 345

Fax: (855-23) 360 345

ProPoor Infotech Centre

ProPoor InfoTech Centre aims to provide an infrastructure for the effective, timely and direct flow of information among those working in the field of poverty/development related issues and serve as a clearing house of information on the activities of social development organisations working in South Asia. The ProPoor's web portal is designed to serve three major functions: (1) offer inspirational and development content to motivate, promote and enable positive social action, (2) develop a variety of projects to which volunteers can give their service, and (3) offer NGOs an array of services in well-informed, creative or specifically targeted ways.

The hallmark of the ProPoor website is its massive data, from non-profit listings to publications, to people. ProPoor also maintains a collection of news "success stories"—inspiring stories of change, profiles of everyday heroes, and journals of personal experiences in service. It plans to add theme-based vertical channels for increased NGO-to-NGO interaction, sharing of best practices, and communication across geographical boundaries.

Website: <<http://www.propoor.org>>
Language: English
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2711, Santa Clara, CA 95055, USA
Tel: (1-408) 237 1830, 247 1830
Fax: (1-603) 506 8384

Protest.net

Established by a collective of U.S.-based activists that have taken a stand against corporatised media, Protest.net publishes a public record of political protest activities on the web. It is an activist calendar, which serves as a central place where the times and locations of protests and meetings can be posted. Believing that the media establishment cannot be depended on to cover the progressive protest movements, the website uses the Internet as a democratising force for activists.

More than a listing of protest activities, Protest.net is an interactive activist web portal with information organised according to geographical locations and advocacy issues, from animal rights to globalisation and imperialism. Its user-friendly interfaces allow one to add and post news/action alerts and articles and create a customised protest calendar. A notable feature is an online Activist Handbook that, while admittedly Amero-centric and deals more specifically in countering the religious right in the U.S., is a practical introduction to political activism.

Website: <<http://protest.net/>>
Language: English
E-mail: <rabble-rouser@protest.net>

Sarai

Sarai is an alternative, non-profit space for an imaginative reconstitution of urban public culture, new/old media practice and research, and critical cultural intervention. It is a programme of the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies. The framework of Sarai includes scholarly reflection and creative work on film and video, computers, telephony, print culture, radio, multimedia and the Internet. Sarai covers interests that include cinema history, urban cultures and politics, new media theory, computers, the Internet and software cultures, documentary filmmaking, digital arts and critical cultural practice.

Website: <<http://www.sarai.net/>>
Language: English
Address: 29 Rajpur Road, Delhi, 110054, India
E-mail: <dak@sarai.net>

Siyanda

Siyanda, which means "we are growing" in Zulu, is an online database of gender and development materials where gender practitioners can share ideas, experiences and resources. Siyanda aims to be a resource support in implementing gender programmes and mainstreaming gender equality concerns.

The website provides short summaries of online resources arranged by themes and by country; a database of gender experts and consultants; downloadable full-length materials, free of charge; and information-sharing on gender and development among people working in this field. Siyanda is hosted by BRIDGE -the Gender and Development Information Service located at the Institute of Development Studies in the United Kingdom.

Website: <<http://www.siyanda.org/>>
Language: English
Address: BRIDGE, IDS University of Sussex, Brighton BN1 9RE, UK
Tel: (44-1273) 872 548
Fax: (44-1273) 621 202
E-mail: <siyanda@ids.ac.uk>

TVE Asia Pacific

TVE Asia Pacific was established in 1996 as an autonomous regional programme of TVE International, an international non-profit organisation working globally and locally to raise awareness of sustainable development and social justice issues through media. TVE Asia Pacific works with NGOs, civil society organisations, media organisations and development agencies to use the media to inspire public discussion and debate. Where programme interests match, TVE Asia Pacific also works with television broadcasters, UN agencies, regional organisations and networks of media and civil society.

TVE Asia Pacific manages the Truth Talking Project, a multi-faceted regional initiative that supports partner organisations to use the audio-visual and new media in support of sustainable development and civil society strengthening. A grants programme provides funding and technical support to partners for the production, adaptation and promotion of new TV programmes.

Website: <<http://www.tveap.org/>>
Language: English
Address: 24, First Lane, Koswatte Road, Sri Lanka
Tel: (94-1) 877 808, 886 927
Fax: (94-74) 403 443

WireTap

A Web portal that serves as an independent information source by and for socially conscious youth, WireTap features the online WireTap magazine with its weekly index of investigative news articles and provocative personal essays and opinions that aim to challenge stereotypes, inspire creativity, foster dialogue and give young people a voice in the media. Other features are the Youth Network (activism links to youth media and cultural groups), and Image and Words Gallery (photographs, paintings, graffiti, sketches, cartoons and poetry); Youth Space (stories that explore the issue of youth and the spaces they occupy), and Music and Activism (stories that demonstrate how music shapes and expresses views about the world).

This joint project of AlterNet and the Independent Media Institute also includes announcements of youth-oriented events; job opportunities, internships, grants, scholarships, subscription to a weekly e-mail newsletter and other interactive sections such as message boards and surveys, and a resource page with news, opinions, and background information about the conflict in Iraq.

Website: <<http://www.wiretapmag.org/>>

Language: English

Address: c/o Independent Media Institute, 77 Federal Street, San Francisco, CA 94107, USA

Tel: (1-415) 284 1420

E-mail: <editor@wiretapmag.org>

Womenspace

For Womenspace, a Canadian non-profit organisation, inclusive access, peer networking and creative use of Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs) are powerful vehicles for social equality. The group is works for the inclusion of women and women's organisations in all areas of policy development and implementation in the ICT sector. Its activities include the development of online resources and learning, research, and education initiatives that support the use of Internet for women's equality.

The website looks at the changes, effects and implications of ICTs on women and women's equality issues. A new section, Policy, addresses many of the new and emerging issues for women and society and includes research papers, a study of at the implications of e-government, the effect of international work, and a toolkit for public policy advocacy. The Fact Sheets (link to Issues) section provide summaries of the issues Canadian women face, from cyber-crime to the invisibility of women.

Website: <http://www.womenspace.ca/index_en.html>

Language: English, French

E-mail: <info@womenspace.ca>

World Press Review

World Press Review is an English-language magazine that gives readers a first-hand look at the issues and debates that occupy the world's newspapers and magazines. Drawing upon publications around the globe and a network of correspondents in dozens of countries, World Press Review illuminates the issues that barely see the light of day in the mainstream press in the United States. World Press Review translates, reprints, analyses, and contextualises the best of the international press in more than 20 languages.

Website: <<http://www.worldpress.org>>

Language: English

Subscription Communications: World Press Review, P.O. Box 228, Shrub Oak, New York 10588-0228

Tel: (914) 962-6292

U.S. and Canadian newsstand distribution by Ingram Periodicals Inc., 1240 Heil Quaker Boulevard, Lavergne, TN 37086

Young Asia Television (YATV)

A pioneering venture that gives Asian youth a meaningful voice, Young Asia Television (YA-TV) believes in re-inventing the usefulness of media for information, communication, education, and development. Some examples are TV programmes "Space to Let," "Nature Calls" and "Young Outlook."

The series "Space to Let," designed for Asian women in general, and marginalised groups in particular, covers issues ranging from the sex industry and abortion, to arranged marriages, to education and employment, to healthcare. "Nature Calls" takes a closer look at environmental issues around Asia, highlighting conservation and protection efforts in the region. "Young Outlook" is a series dedicated to young people of the world working to make a difference within their communities. It features selected groups that aspire to contribute to social change and development, and has tackled such issues as sustainable forms of energy, violence against women, and democracy.

Website: <<http://www.yatv.net>>

Language: English

Address: 713, D P Wijesinghe Mawatha, Pelawatte, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka

Tel: (94-74) 419 100

Fax: (94-74) 419 299